

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BUREAU



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

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STATE OF MONTANA

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July 9, 1981

Board of County Commissioners, Flathead Co. Courthouse, Kalispell, MT  
Mike Cavazos, J. V. Program Director, P. O. Box 168, Kalispell, MT  
Tom Cowan, 723 Fifth Ave. E., Kalispell, MT  
Nick Verma, County Zoning Administrator, 723 Fifth Ave., E., Kalispell, MT  
Jeff Ellingson, Attorney, Box 1483, Kalispell, MT  
Myron Holzheimer, Dept. of Highways, Right of Way Bureau, Helena, MT  
Environmental Quality Council, 1209 8th Ave., Helena, MT  
Dick Lawrence, Flathead Salvage & Storage, P. O. Box 128, Somers, MT  
Tom Ellerhoff, Env. Sciences Division, DHES, Helena, MT

Gentlemen;

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, Section 16-2.2(2)-P2030, Rule IV, the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Flathead Salvage and Storage, a proposed wrecking facility on Highway 82 northeast of Somers.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15) days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within the allotted time.

Sincerely,

LARRY D. MITCHELL  
Solid Waste Management Bureau  
Environmental Sciences Division

LDM:vc

Encls.

cc: Joe DeLong, P. O. Box 164, Somers, MT 59932

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601  
(406)449-3946

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau

Project or Application Dick Lawrence dba/Flathead Salvage and Storage

Description of Project The applicant has proposed to establish a private motor  
vehicle wrecking facility on Highway 82 north of Somers. The attached map  
shows the exact location.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats				X		
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality				X		
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality				X		
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		



# POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue			X			X
4. Agricultural or industrial production			X			X
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income			X			X
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment			X			X
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services				X		X
11. Industrial & commercial activity				X		X
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		X
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Montana Department of Highways

Flathead County Zoning Administrator

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS Not Necessary

PER Prepared by: Larry D. Mitchell

Date: July 9, 1981



## POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

### 5. Aesthetics -

The Montana Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal law and regulations require that motor vehicle wrecking facilities be screened such that junk vehicles stored as inventory are not visible from public view. Public view is defined as any point six feet above the centerline of a public road from which junk vehicles can be seen. This proposed wrecking facility location is on Highway 82 (State Highway 208) about 1 mile east of its intersection with U.S. Highway 93 near Somers. Additionally there are some county roads near the site which add to the requirement that this proposed facility be screened on all four sides.

The applicant owns approximately five acres of land in a rectangular shaped tract some 370 feet wide (east to west) and 590 feet deep (north to south). A portion of this site is proposed for use as a motor vehicle wrecking facility. The applicant has proposed screening an area about 260 feet by 330 feet using a board fence approximately eight feet tall. A fence of this height will be adequate on the north and east sides. The south side of the facility is approximately two to four feet below the elevation of Highway 82 so additional fence height may be necessary there. Using a combination of surface leveling and contouring with a fence of adequate height, the site will be effectively screened on the north, south and east sides.

The west side of the proposed facility presents a special screening problem which must be carefully addressed by the applicant. U.S. Highway 93 rises above the elevation of the proposed facility as it crests a hill near Somers. At the worst possible vantage point, Highway 93 is approximately 100 feet above the proposed site. Obviously, were the facility immediately adjacent to U.S. 93, a fence over 100 feet in height would be required to successfully screen the site. However, the proposed facility is approximately three fourths of a mile northeast of the highway. At this distance the angle of sight is so small, approximately one to two degrees below horizontal, that a motor vehicle wrecking facility 300 feet wide (east to west) can be screened from view. Rough calculations indicate that the eight foot fence proposed by the applicant may not be of sufficient height, especially on the southwest corner of the site, to screen the entire facility from this vantage point on the highway. However, the applicant has proposed to construct whatever screening is necessary in order to shield this side from view. In any case, a license to operate the facility cannot be issued until and unless the proposed facility is in compliance with the shielding requirements of Section 16.14.202 ARM.

## POTENTIAL IMPACT ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

3. Local and state tax bases and tax revenue
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income
8. Quantity and distribution of employment.

The successful operation of a motor vehicle wrecking facility should





have a minor but positive impact on the above stated criteria. The applicant has proposed a well designed vehicle salvage facility for approximately 250 to 300 vehicles. The additional competition for salvage vehicles provided by an aggressive salvage business may result in higher prices paid to insurance companies and individuals for scrap vehicles. Presently there are twelve licensed motor vehicle wrecking facilities in Flathead County and four more are under consideration for licensing. Each additional business should have a minor positive impact on community income by providing additional markets for this aspect of the scrap cycle.

Also, this new business should provide supplemental employment and income opportunities for the applicant and any additional employees necessary for the operation of the facility. Employment and income for secondary trades such as construction, shipping, recycling, advertising, and others associated with the salvage industry should be realized. There may also be a small positive impact on local and state tax bases and revenues by converting the property from agricultural use to a commercial business.

#### 4. Agricultural or industrial production

#### 11. Industrial and commercial activity

The site proposed for use as a motor vehicle wrecking facility is a five acre parcel presently planted to alfalfa for hay production. The adjoining area is generally agricultural in nature with a slow but continual trend towards residential and commercial use. This project will take five acres out of agricultural production and put it into commercial use.

#### 10. Demands for government services.

Periodic routine inspections by state and local junk vehicle program officials are required to assure that motor vehicle wrecking facilities are being maintained and operated in compliance with the requirements of the Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal law and rules. Also, a minor amount of administrative work is required in maintaining files and records on such facilities and in routine mailings of correspondence.

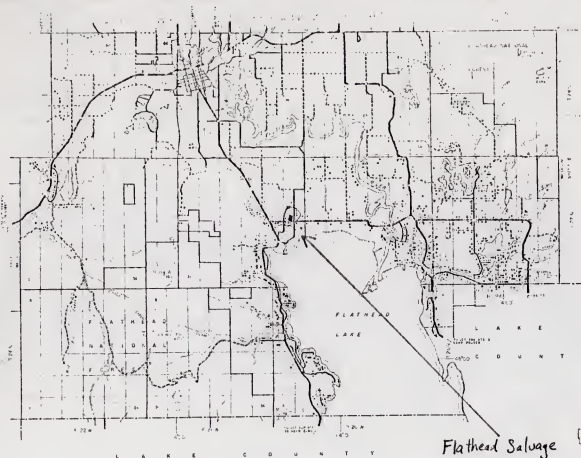
#### 13. Locally adopted environmental plans and goals.

There are no locally adopted land use regulations or ordinances which would preclude establishing and operating a motor vehicle wrecking facility at this location according to a certification on the license application endorsed by the Planning Director of Flathead County.

#### 14. Transportation networks and traffic flows -

Highway 82 connecting U.S. Highway 93 and Big Fork is a federal aid primary highway with uncontrolled access. Traffic is often moderate to heavy in the summer months from vacation travel in the Flathead Lake area. The establishment of a commercial business, partially one of this nature may increase the traffic flow and the opportunity for traffic mishaps. Towing or transporting vehicle salvage inventory to and from the proposed facility as well as routine customer traffic will add to the present traffic flow.





Flathead Salvage



# GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP FLATHEAD COUNTY MONTANA

Prepared by the  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS  
CLARKSON AND REEDSON BUREAU  
in cooperation with the  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

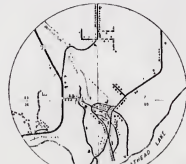
Scale  
1 inch = 10 miles  
1959



1:50,000  
Scale 1 inch = 1.25 miles



1:50,000  
Scale 1 inch = 1.25 miles



1:50,000  
Scale 1 inch = 1.25 miles



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X

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
Environmental Sciences Division  
Solid Waste Management Bureau  
Helena, Montana 59601

MOTOR VEHICLE WRECKING FACILITY

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE

Complete this form and return with attachments to: Solid Waste Management Bureau  
Montana Department of Health and  
Environmental Sciences  
Helena, Montana 59601

- 1) Name of applicant: Dick Lawrence
- 2) Name of facility: FLATHEAD SALVAGE & STORAGE (PROPOSED)
- 3) Address: 1 MILE EAST OF HWY #93 & 82 JUNCTION  
(#495 HWY #52)
- 4) Size and legal description of facility: 5 ACRES WITH LEGAL  
DESCRIPTION ATTACHED

- 5) If you are not the owner of the premises, give name and address of lessor who holds title to the property:

Name: CONTRACT FOR DEED

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- 6) Attachments: a) Map of city or county showing proposed location of facility.
- b) Drawing of proposed facility showing especially the type and adequacy of shielding of facility from public view and location of buildings.
- 7) I hereby certify that the site of the planned motor vehicle wrecking facility is in accordance with local government zoning and ordinances (to be signed by appropriate local government official having knowledge of local zoning ordinances).

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

OF: \_\_\_\_\_

(city or county)

Shirley (The proposed site is not in a zoned area)

- 8) Date (year and month) that your facility will begin operation: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: Dick Lawrence

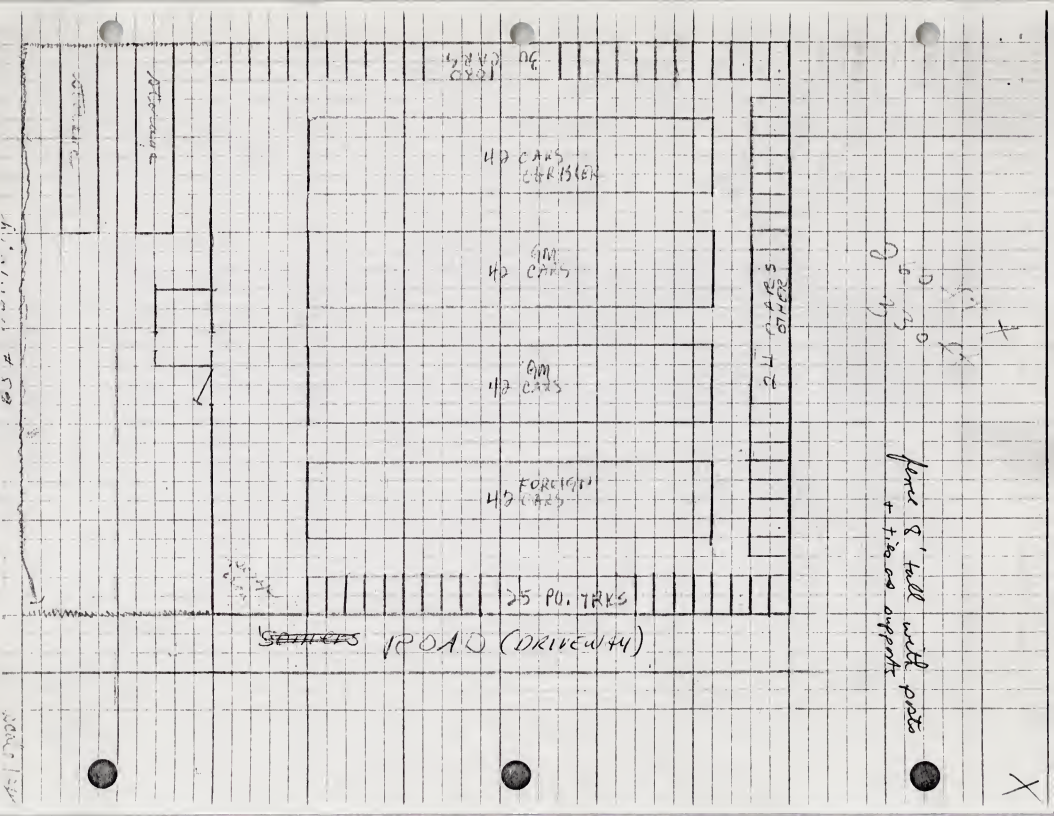
PHONE: 857-3826 days  
857-3741 nights

TITLE: owner

DATE: 5-5-81







42 VEH DC

40 CARS  
CRUISER

40 CARS  
GM

40 CARS  
GM

40 CARS  
FOREIGN

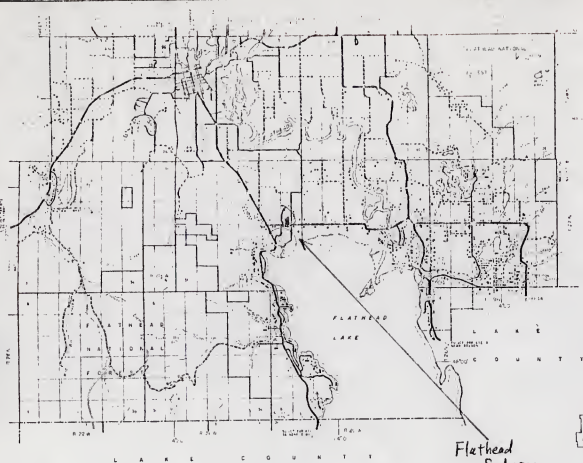
25 PO. TRKS

ROAD (DRIVEWAY)

50 CARS

fence 8' tall with posts  
+ tie on supports





**LEGEND**

1. **BOUNDARIES**  
 a. Section  
 b. Township  
 c. Range  
 d. County  
 e. State

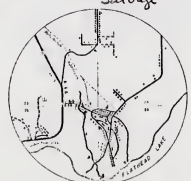
2. **ROADS**  
 a. U.S. Highway  
 b. State Highway  
 c. County Road  
 d. Private Road

3. **RAILROADS**  
 a. Great Northern  
 b. Northern Pacific  
 c. Great Falls and Great Northern  
 d. Great Falls and Northern Pacific  
 e. Great Falls and Great Northern and Northern Pacific  
 f. Great Falls and Great Northern and Northern Pacific and Great Northern

4. **WATER**  
 a. Lake  
 b. River  
 c. Stream  
 d. Pond  
 e. Reservoir  
 f. Dam  
 g. Lock  
 h. Canal  
 i. Ditch  
 j. Irrigation System  
 k. Water Right  
 l. Water Right and Dam  
 m. Water Right and Dam and Lock  
 n. Water Right and Dam and Lock and Canal  
 o. Water Right and Dam and Lock and Canal and Ditch  
 p. Water Right and Dam and Lock and Canal and Ditch and Irrigation System  
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Flathead  
Salvage



# GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP FLATHEAD COUNTY MONTANA

MONITORING DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
PLANNING AND RESEARCH BUREAU  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

1955

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THIS MAP IS A REPRODUCTION OF THE 1955 FIELD MAP OF MONTANA

